## FSUPER 39言MONTHLY

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Millers Graphics has announced the upcoming release of a new software package, DisKassembler ${ }^{T M}$. Written by Tom Freeman, DisKassembler ${ }^{-1 \%}$ creates directly assemblable source files from 99/4A Assembly Language object code that is in either Display Fixed 80 or memory image format (such as game files). In addition, it will disassemble console memory and all valid DSF's. Frogram output is to disk or any printer. Object files may be from floppy disk, hard disk or FAM disk in CorComp, MYARC or TI disk controller formats. The program is for anyone interested in how programs were constructed and in learning new programming techniques. Carrying a suggested price of \$19.95 (plus shipping and handling), the package will include complete and useful documentation (the hallmark of all MG products).

The first shipments of GRAM Kracker ${ }^{\text {TM }}$, Millers Graphics incredible new hardware device, will be released on December 16 and 17. Due to quality control procedures that ensure that all customers will receive the product without jumper modifications, the shipment dates are behind original projections, which has prompted Millers Graphics to provide UPS Blue Label shipping at no extra charge to ensure arrival by Christmas. As the 3 optional RAM chips for GRAM

Kracker ${ }^{T M}$ have been reported to be difficult to find in same regions, MG now offers the chips at $\$ 4.50$ each, with C.O.D. ( $\$ 1.90$ ) being available for U.S. customers (other countries, prepaid). Installation is provided only for orders initiated with the optional chips specified (total price $\$ 184.95$ plus shipping and handling).

## FOFTH

Strings, Part 1
by Warren Agee
STANDARD: 1A 2EA 4B 5A 6B 7B 9B

## PREFACE:

With this tutorial (and more to come!), I humbly submit what I have learned by programming in the FORTH language. One reason I decided to put down into words the knowledge I have acquired is to share my experiences, frustrations and triumphs while hacking away with FORTH. But, on a more personal level, I give these tutorials to the TI world as a token of appreciation for everything I have gained from knowing such people as Fonald Albright, Barry Traver, and Howie Rosenberg, just to name a few, as well as the whole gang on the TI FOFUM. These and many others have given unselfishly to both me and the TI community as a whole, and I am proud to be part of a community that refuses to die. Now, on with the programming, FORTHwith! <ugh!>

Of all the peculiarities the beginner confronts in FORTH, string handling is a major obstacle. Nothing is more frustrating than to sit down and have no idea how to write something Iike $A \$=" 1234 ": A=V A C$ ( $A *$ ). No advanced string-handling routines come with the TI FORTH systems disk. So, it is up to the programmer to invent his own. Hopefully, this article will make it much easier to write a FORTH program that involves any string mainpulation at all.
THE BASICS
Before jumping into the new string words, let's first take a look at how a string sits in memory. This knowledge is imperative in order to fully exploit the power of FOFTH. Think of a string as a numeric array; each character in the string represents a number, or byte. The string HOME COMPUTER would look like this:

```
IHIOIMIE: ICIOIMIPIUITIEIRI
```

The first "box" represents the address in memory where this string starts. Determining the location of this address is what we will discuss next.

There are many ways to store strings; we could save them in VDP FAM, or in the disk buffers. In this article, we will investigate storing strings directiy in the dictionary. A string variable is no more than a numeric variable stretched out. In fact unlike BASIC, there is only one type of variablein FORTH. The oniy thing that differs is the size; First use the word VARIABLE to create a variable. But when you create it, let's say o VARIABLE TEST, only two bytes are alloted for storage. This is fine for single numbers; but for strings. we can use ALLOT to specify the length of the variable. For instance, o VARIABLE TEST 8 ALLOT will create a variable with a length of ten bytes. This gives us room for a string with a maximum length of io characters. If the above is exectuted, the variable will look like this in memory:

```
i i i i i i i i i i i
!
addr of TEST
```

Once the string is created in the dictionary, there may be garbage in the variable. Here we can use BLANKS to clean it out: TEST 10 BLANKS. This will fill ten bytes of memory, starting at TEST, with blanks (ASCII 32).

Now that space has been reserved for the string, there are basically two ways to store the string. If the contents of the variable is not going to change, then the word ! can be used. All this wordrequires is an address on the Stack. So, to store STFINGS in the variable TEST defined above, the sequence TEXT" "STRINGS" will do the trick. If you wish the user to input the string, the word EXFECT is available, which is similar to BASIC's INFUT statement: it awaits an entry from the keyboard. EXPECT requires both an address and the maximum length of the string on the stack. Using TEST 7 EXPECT will achieve the same results as TEST !" STRINGS". The variable will now look like this:

```
ISITIRIIINIGISI: 
```

This presents our first problem. Since the contents of TEST is not expected to change, the length of the string can be assumed to always be 7. However, if the length will vary, we must keep track of it. EXPECT does not do this for us. Sure, it requires a length on the stack, but it does not incorporate this value into the string. Not to worry. This brings us to our first new word, ACCEPT, which replaces EXPECT. The only difference is that ACCEFT stores the actual length of the string entered into the byte preceding the string. This is often called the count byte. If we use ACCEPT in the example above, our string would now look like this:

```
IT:SIT:NI:N:GISI
```

As you can see, the first letter of the string, the " 5 ", no longer sits at TEST; the whole string has moved over one byte to make room for the court. Now, to print this string is a trivial matter of using TEST COUNT IYPE. TEST supplies the addr of the complete string. COUNT takes that address, calculates the address of the actual string (TEST+1; , and finally supplies the length of the string. Everything is ready for TYPE. To Eummarize what we have done so far, consider the following example:

```
O VARIABLE COOKIE 18 ALLOT (reserves 20 bytes)
COOKIE 2O BLANKS
COOKIE 2O ACCEPT _CHOCOLATE CHIP_
COOKIE COUNT TYPE-' -
```

Note: any words that appear between underscore characters (_) are to be typed in as a response to the ACCEPT word.

## MOUING AROLIND

Up till now, I have discussed performing basic functions on strings which reside directly in the dictionary. This is not always the ideal situation. A much better way is to store the string in a temporary spot, do what needs to be done, then move it back into the dictionary. This temporary spot is called PAD. Typing in FAD just leaves an address on the stack, just as TEST does. Typically, instead of typing in TEST 10 ACCEPT, you would type PAD 10 ACCEPT. Once any processing is done, the word CMOVE can move the bugger back to where it belongs. Here arises our second problem. CMOVE moves a specified quantity of bytes from low memory to high memory. But what if you want to go the oother way around? Well, define a new word, of course! The new word will be <CMOVE, which is included in some versions of FOFTH. But wait--isn't it rather a hassile having to remember which word to use? Of course it is! Remember, FORTH is extensible, and we can make it as user-friendly as we like! The next new bird will be CMOVEt, which decides which way the string is moving, and does the moving for you.

## Here is an example of using CMOVE ${ }^{\text {and }}$ and

```
O VARIABLE DRESSER a ALLOT
DRESSER 10 BLANKS
PAD 10 ACCEPT _SOCKS_
: (string processing done here)
FAD COUNT
1+ SWAP 1- SWAP
(get addr and length)
(PAD-1 CNT+1)
DRESSER SWAP
```

cmoves
DRESSER COUNT TYPE

Everything should make sense until you get to the $1+$ SWAP 1 - SWAF. The reasoning is a little hard to grasp at first: we want to move SOCKS from PAD to DFESSEF. We also want to maintain that ever-important count byte. But when we use PAD COUNT, we only have the addr and length of the string itself, not including the count. So we compensate. Add 1 to the count (because we want to move the count byte along with the string), then subtract one from the address. COUNT adds 1 to the address, so we have to correct this to catch the count. Once these two numbers have been corrected to catch the count byte, shift things around to get everything ready for CMOVE\$. To better illustrate this,

```
15:S:O:CIK:S:: (Contents of PAD)
    |
    FAD+1 (This is where you are using PAD COUNT)
    FAD (This is where you are using PAD COUNT 1+ SWAP 1- SWAP)
```

If you can understand the principle of the count byte, and how to keep the count byte tacked on to the string when moved, then a major obstacle in writing in FORTH has been removed. Next, time, I will discuss string arrays. Until then,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { - NOVEMBER } 1985 \\
& \text { SUPER } 99 \text { MONTHLY }
\end{aligned}
$$

SUMMARY OF RESIDENT WORDS


NEW WORDS
======= =
: PICK ( $n 1-n$ n $)$
$2 * S P C+C$
( Copies nith number to top of stack)
******
: LEN (addr -- $n$ )
2550 ( string max $=255$ characters)
DO
DUP I + CE
$0=1 F$ (looks for null)
$I$ LEAVE ( I=length of string)
ENDIF
LOOP
SWAP DRDP :
( Feturns the length of a string at addr.)
****
: ACCEPT ( addr n -- )
QVER $1+$ DUP ROT ( adr +1 )
EXPECT
LEN ( length of string)
SWAP C! (store count byte at addr)
( Waits for inputs stores count at addr and etring starting)
(at adr+1.)

: 〈CMDVE (adr1 adir2 $n$ )
DUP ROT + SWAP ROT
1-DLIP ROT
DO
1- I Ce DVER C! - 1
+LOOP
DROP:
( Moveg $n$ bytes from adr1 to adr2, from high to low memory.)
******
: CMOVE ${ }^{( }$(adr1 adr2 $n$ )
QVER 4 PICK >
IF <CMOVE
ELSE CMDVE
ENDIF:
( Moves $n$ bytes from adri to adr2; automatically decides on)
( direction.)

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ASSEMBLY
STANDARD: IA 2XB EA TW 3B 4B 5A 6B 7B 9B 10B

******************************************************************************** DEF DE1,DE2

| VSEW | 或 | >2020 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| VMEW | EQU | >2024 |
| VSbF | EQU |  |
| VMBR | EQU |  |
| STRFEF | EQU | >2014 |
| NUMREF | EQU |  |
| FAC | EQU |  |
|  | AORG | $>2700$ |
| DE1 | MOV | MYREGSAVE |
|  | CLF |  |
|  | JMP | MA |
| D |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { K11 } \\ & \hline 1 \end{aligned}$ |

SAVE RETURN ADDRESS
feset flag -> Single density
SAVE RETURN ADDFESS
SET FLAG $\rightarrow$ DOUBLE DENSITY


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```
SAVE VALUE FOF LATEF:
END LINE STORED AFTEF START LINE
GET READY TO GET NEXT VALLE FROM XB
BOTH START AND END LINE STORED?
ND, GET END LINE
YES, GET TAB VALUE
MOUE VALUE FFOM FAC TO R4
VALUE IS IN LOWER BYTE
START BINARY TO BCD CONVERSIDN
K5 COUNTS "TENS"
R4 COUNTS "ONES"
STORE "TENS" AS HIGH BYTE OF "ONES"
CONVERT TO ASCIITION OF FIRST TL.

```

NOW WE WANT THE FIRST VALUE FROM XB
STORE IT AS PART OF THE PAB
GET THE STRING NOW
VDP BUFFER FDR FAB
MOVE IT TD UDF FROM CFU
NOW OPEN THE DISK FILE
MOVE WRITE BYTE TO PAB
SINGLE DENSITY DUMP?
YES, DON'T CHANGE ANYTHING
NO, CHANGE DENSITY AND
FRINT LINE LENGTH IN FIRST TL.
LENGTH OF FIRST TL
MOVE IT TO PAB
** * FIRST TL CONTAINS CODES TO INITIALIZE GRAFHICS

```

```

|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

DATA BUFFER IN VDF
MOVE FIRST TL TO VDP
SEND IT TO THE PRINTER

```

\section*{****************************************************************}
``` * \({ }^{*}\) EACH REDEFINABLE XB CHARACTERS FATTERN WILL BE STOFED AS A TRANSL I TERATE
****************************************************************
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{LO} & MI & \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\[
\mathrm{R} 10,1024
\]
\[
\mathrm{K} 10 . \mathrm{FO}
\]} \\
\hline & LI & R1, In & WE'LL STORE THE PATTERN HERE \\
\hline & BLWF & CVMER & GET A FATTERN \\
\hline & LI & F5, 128 & K5 FOINTS TO BIT EEING CONVERTED \\
\hline & CLF & K8 & RB FOINTS TO BYTE IN CONVERTED PA \\
\hline 1.3 & LI & F9,128 & F9 FOINTS TO BYTE NUMBER \\
\hline & CLR & R3 & R3 POINTS TO BYTE BEING CONVERTED \\
\hline & CLR & F 4 & K4 HOLDS CONVERTED BYTE \\
\hline L2 & CLR & F7 & R7 HOLDS BYTE BEING CONV \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
```


## 

``` CONVERT FATTERN
```



``` MDVB EIN(3), R7
SWPB R7
CLT R7,R5
A R9,R4
＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊GETOASCII VALUES AND STORE IN DUTPUT BUFFER
 CLF RG ANOTHER BINARY TO BCD CONVERSIQN

\(\begin{array}{ll}\text { CLR } & \text { RS } \\ \text { CLR } & \text { R（9）}\end{array}\) SWFB F4
LOOP
INC
\(\begin{array}{ll}A I & R \\ J L T & C \\ \text { JMF } & L\end{array}\) R4，-10

DEC LD
\(\begin{array}{ll}\text { AI } & \mathrm{R} 4: 10 \\ \mathrm{CI} & \mathrm{R}, 10\end{array}\)
JLT LiOO
LDOP2
\(\begin{array}{ll}\text { AI } & R S \\ \text { JLT } & C 2 \\ \text { JMF } & L D \\ \text { DEC } & R \\ \text { AI } & R \\ D D N= & \end{array}\)
，-10 ODF2
R7
AI RSN： 10
DON：PRINT
RCD COUNTERSION＂ONES＂
RS COUNTS＂TENS＂
F7 COUNTS＂HUNDREDS＂


MOV R7，R7
ZERDI
MOVB EASCII（7），RTLDATA（B）
INC RE
ZERO 1
MOV KS，R5
MOVB EASCII（5），ETLDATA（日）
ZERO2
INC
R日
MOVB
INC
MOVB \(G\)
INC
MOV R14，R14 SINGLE DENSITY？
MEQ SDG F7R7 IF NOT，REPEAT LAST CHARACTER IN BUFFER
JEQ ZERD3
MOUB GASCII（7），GTLDATA（B）
INC
RB
ZERDS MOV RS，RS
JEQ ZERD4
MOVB EASCII（5），ETLDATA（8）
ZEFO4
MOVB GASCII（4），ETLDATA（B）
INC R
INE RB
SD6
\(\begin{array}{ll}\text { INC } & \mathrm{Fq} \\ \mathrm{CI} & \mathrm{F} 9\end{array}\)
DMMA, ETLDATA(8)



AI R日， 7 CDMPUTE TOTAL LINE LENGTH
\(\begin{array}{lll}B L & E N X T \\ L I & R O, \geq 1 E O S \\ M O V & R B, R 1\end{array}\)
MLW RB，R1
\(\begin{array}{ll}\text { BLWP } & \begin{array}{ll}\text { RUSBW } \\ \text { LI } & \text { RO，}>1 F 00\end{array}\end{array}\)
WFITE LINE LENGTH TO PAB
－NQUEMBEF 1985
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\footnotetext{
- NOVEMBER \({ }^{1985} \operatorname{SUPER}^{199}\) MONTHLY \({ }^{8}\) -
}




\title{
THIS IS A TAELE DF
} ALL THE CHARACTERS (IN HEX) THAT WE WILL TRANSLITERATE

99 FOTFOUFFI
News, Corrections, Updates, Editorials, Kudos and Come-what-may

I WISH I HAD:
Fulfillments:
F2: For John Singleton, Westlake, LA. MENGEN, available on the TI FOFUM on CIS, converts an Extended BASIC screen to Assembly object code for linking to your program. Graphics are supported, except character 130. A few screens can be loaded at once and using CALL INIT will allow loading another set of screens (your RAM Disk will help!).
Wishes:
W3: A program to dump graphics and text to my Pro-Writer \#8S10 printer. I'd like to press a <CTRL> or <FCTN> key for the dump. F.J. Bubenik, Jr.,

Hicksville, NY.

The former manager of NCC has now formed her own discount disk firm. Contact Renee' Dezarn, 87 Fhoades Court, San Jose, CA 95126 today!

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